



P.B.5818 - Patentlaan 2
2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH)
☎ +31 70 340 2040
TX 31651 epo nl
FAX +31 70 340 3016

**Europäisches
Patentamt**

Zweigstelle
in Den Haag
Recherchen-
abteilung

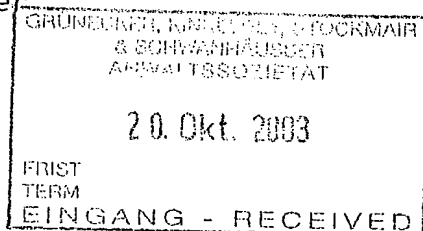
**European
Patent Office**

Branch at
The Hague
Search
division

**Office européen
des brevets**

Département à
La Haye
Division de la
recherche

Grünecker, Kinkeldey,
Stockmair & Schwanhäusser
Anwaltssozietät
Maximilianstrasse 58
80538 München
ALLEMAGNE



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Datum/Date

20.10.03

Zeichen/Ref./Réf. J EP18750-011/kg	Anmeldung Nr./Application No./Demande n°/Patent Nr./Patent No./Brevet n°. J00108162.9-1522-
Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhaber/Propriétaire/Titulaire J MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.	

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

- ☒ Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

☒ abstract

☒ title

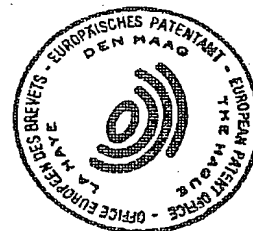
- ☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

1

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Article 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages
X	US 4 992 866 A (MORGAN JACK B) 12 February 1991 (1991-02-12)
Y	* column 2, line 63 - column 3, line 58 * * column 4, line 46 - column 5, line 68 * * column 6, line 32 - line 52 * WO 97 37494 A (BRIAN D MARK; KATZ BARRY) (US); GREGORIO PETER J (US) 9 October 1997 (1997-10-09)
A	* page 10, line 11 - page 12, line 4 * * page 19, line 3 - page 20, line 8 * EP 0 529 317 A (SENSORMATIC ELECTRONICS CORP) 3 March 1993 (1993-03-03) * column 4, line 53 - column 5, line 55 * * column 9, line 10 - line 17 *
A	EP 0 729 275 A (CANON KK) 28 August 1996 (1996-08-28) * column 7, line 31 - column 8, line 30 * * column 9, line 3 - line 26 * * column 10, line 1 - line 38 *
A	EP 0 723 374 A (HYUGA MAKOTO) 24 July 1996 (1996-07-24) * column 5, line 4 - line 51; figure 1 *
A	EP 0 715 453 A (CANON KK) 5 June 1996 (1996-06-05) * column 6, line 38 - column 9, line 22 *
	--- -/-
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims	
Place of search	Date of completion of the search
BERLIN	7 October 2003
Examiner	
BLAIS, D	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

JEP 00 10 8162

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
A, D ✓	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 1995, no. 08, 29 September 1995 (1995-09-29) & JP 07 123390 A (CANON INC), 12 May 1995 (1995-05-12) * abstract *	1-22	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
BERLIN		7 October 2003	BLAIS, D
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
<div><div>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</div><div>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</div></div>			

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

dep 00 10 8162

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on the European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

07-10-2003

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
---	---------------------	----------------------------	---------------------

US 4992866	A	12-02-1991	CA 202003 A1	30-12-1990
WO 9737494	A	09-10-1997	US 5956081 A	21-09-1999
			AU 2545797 A	22-10-1997
			WO 9737494 A1	09-10-1997
EP 0529317	A	03-03-1993	US 5164827 A	17-11-1992
			BR 9203284 A	06-04-1993
			CA 2064299 A1	23-02-1993
			DE 69216005 D1	30-01-1997
			DE 69216005 T2	03-07-1997
			EP 0529317 A1	03-03-1993
			JP 3268019 B2	25-03-2002
			JP 5207467 A	13-08-1993
EP 0729275	A	28-08-1996	JP 8237590 A	13-09-1996
			JP 3313931 B2	12-08-2002
			JP 8289194 A	01-11-1996
			DE 69624603 D1	12-12-2002
			DE 69624603 T2	24-07-2003
			EP 0729275 A2	28-08-1996
			JP 3287382 B2	04-06-2002
			JP 9093573 A	04-04-1997
EP 0723374	A	24-07-1996	WO 9601539 A1	18-01-1996
			AU 702859 B2	04-03-1999
			AU 7083494 A	25-01-1996
			DE 69421191 D1	18-11-1999
			DE 69421191 T2	03-02-2000
			EP 0723374 A1	24-07-1996
			US 5818733 A	06-10-1998
EP 0715453	A	05-06-1996	JP 8154197 A	11-06-1996
			JP 8163422 A	21-06-1996
			JP 8251467 A	27-09-1996
			JP 8340528 A	24-12-1996
			EP 0715453 A2	05-06-1996
			US 2002067412 A1	06-06-2002
			EP 0734157 A2	25-09-1996
JP 07123390	A	12-05-1995	US 5745161 A	28-04-1998